



## **MINUTES**

### **SUNNYVALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION AUGUST 20, 2012**

The Sustainability Commission met in regular session in the Annex Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. with Chair Harrison presiding.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Commission Members Present:**

Commission Chair Sue Harrison  
Commission Vice Chair Amit Srivastava  
Commissioner Barbara Fukumoto  
Commissioner Gerry Glaser  
Commissioner Dan Hafeman

##### **Commission Members Absent:**

Commissioner Joe Green-Heffern (Excused)

**Council Liaison:** Councilmember Jim Davis (Present)

**Staff Present:** John Stufflebean, Director of Environmental Services  
Melody Tovar, Regulatory Programs Division Manager  
Dustin Clark, Sustainability Coordinator, Staff Liaison  
Diana O'Dell, Senior Planner

#### **SCHEDULED PRESENTATION**

#### **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public announcements.

There were no announcements.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1.A. Approval of draft minutes of Sustainability Commission meeting of July 26, 2012.

**Commissioner Srivastava moved and Commissioner Glaser seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 16 with minor changes. Commissioner Fukumoto requested the minutes reflect her comments regarding her attendance at a parking seminar and that the notes would be provided to Commissioners.**

**VOTE: 4-0-1 (Vote to approve was unanimous; Commissioner Green-Heffern absent; Commissioner Hafeman abstained)**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS**

1. ACTION: 2012-7532: Zoning Code Amendments for Development over 70% FAR: New Requirements for Housing Mitigation and Transportation Demand Management; and Modification to the Green Building Program

Diana O'Dell, Senior Planner, presented a draft staff report to the Commission for comments. The staff report addressed a proposed project in the vicinity of Mathilda Avenue that has prompted the Planning Department to consider zoning code amendments that modify the current green building program. Commissioners provided comments that will be reflected in the staff report to Council.

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

2. ACTION: CCA Subcommittee Vacancy

The Commission selected a new member of the CCA subcommittee as a result of a vacancy on the Commission.

Chair Harrison opened the public hearing to public comments.

There were no comments.

Chair Harrison closed the public hearing.

**Commissioner Glaser moved and Commissioner Harrison seconded a motion to appoint Commissioner Fukumoto as a member of the Sustainability Commission CCA Subcommittee.**

**VOTE 4-0-1 (Vote was unanimous; Commissioner Green-Heffern absent; Commissioner Fukumoto abstained)**

### 3. ACTION: Proposal of Study Issues

Commissioner Hafeman initiated a discussion on a study issue regarding the development of a sustainability rating for public and private projects. Commissioner Hafeman commented that the sustainability rating would act as a decision making tool for evaluating projects or policies with multiple alternatives. An example provided was considerations for future plans for a library, which may have multiple alternatives. A sustainability rating would allow decision makers to weigh alternatives based on the sustainability rating in conjunction with other factors, such as cost.

**Commissioner Hafeman made a motion to recommend a study issue that would look at attaching a sustainability rating based on metrics, to a project (public or private), to assist decision making where there are multiple alternatives. Commissioner Harrison seconded the motion.**

**VOTE 5-0 (Vote was unanimous; Commissioner Green-Heffern absent)**

### NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

#### Commissioner Oral Comments

Commissioner Glaser commented that he attended the Green Energy Summit hosted in part by County Supervisor Cortese. Commissioner Glaser met with Supervisor Cortese's assistant Steve Blomquist as the Supervisor is interested in Community Choice Aggregation.

Commissioner Glaser attended TiE (The Indus Entrepreneurs) Energy - Electric Avenue: EVs charge into \$200B market event. The event looked at the new product announcements in the EV (electric vehicle) space, along with the global trends and opportunities. Commissioner Glaser commented that one of the messages he took from the event is that the City can be active and show leadership by going with EV.

Commissioner Glaser commented on the light fixtures installed in the downtown area or Mathilda. Commissioner Glaser commented on how absurd they look and also heard similar comments from an out of town visitor that compared the area to Disneyland. Commissioner Glaser wonders who was responsible for approving that design element.

Commissioner Fukumoto commented on the Local Government Commissions Ecodistricts seminar. The seminar was sponsored by the Portland Sustainability Institute. Commissioner Fukumoto will provide the powerpoint and her notes on the event to the Commission.

Commissioner Fukumoto commented that the State of California has come out with a report, "*Our Changing Climate*", compiling numerous studies about California and climate change. The report can be found on the internet at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/2012publications/CEC-500-2012-007/CEC-500-2012-007.pdf>. Commissioner Fukumoto's key takeaways were the electricity demand is expected to increase due to increasing need for air conditioning, transmission lines bringing electricity from the northwest may be vulnerable to increasing

wildfires and electricity from high elevation hydroelectricity is vulnerable due to climate change and reduced snowpack.

Commissioner Srivastava commented that he attended a meeting held by Oceanic Data. Commissioner Srivastava commented that Oceanic Data is making the case that the ocean temperature rise was a lot more conservative by IPCC than what the actual temperature rise is and that IBCC made very conservative estimates.

Commissioner Harrison commented that she attended Lawrence Station Area Plan Citizen Advisory Group meeting. Commissioner Harrison commented that the 11 member group was provided with three different development scenarios. Commissioner Harrison commented that all of the group members, each with their own diverse viewpoint, voted in favor of the mixed-use development format.

Commissioner Fukumoto informed the Commission of upcoming meetings and events. The event information will be sent to Commissioners and posted on the Sustainability Events Calendar.

#### Staff Comments

Sustainability Coordinator Clark announced that the CCA subcommittee would be meeting on Wednesday, August 22 at 4:00 p.m. in the West Conference Room.

Sustainability Coordinator Clark announced that the Fall BAWSCA Landscape Education Series gets underway in September. The City will be hosting 4 classes highlighting California Natives, water efficient irrigation and edible gardening. The classes will be held at the Senior Center September 22, October 6, October 13 and November 10. All classes are free and go from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

#### **INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dustin Clark, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator

Reviewed by: John Stufflebean, Director of Environmental Services  
Melody Tovar, Regulatory Programs Division Manager